

WON REWARD FOR STOLEN WATCH

Killed Over Indian Land
Title Dispute
Later

OKLAHOMA CITY, June 1.—A

through the capture of a ship which was a gift, a consequential and desired result of certain efforts in the past in Italy, now a per-

The story as told by the secretary of the society pictures John Swan as a plucky, young man, when from

the Javies formed the occupation of this nation. He was formed, as were others, an "intruder," then evading the Indians from their old reservations. In the vicinity of Whitehot, then in the Chickasaw nation, Swain first asked a part of the Indian lands.

Marrying into the Chickasaw tribe he fell heir to tribal land rights and the death of his wife, later

entering conspicuously into Chickasaw affairs because his wife at the time of marriage was the daughter of the chief of the tribe.

A United States marshalship several months later was accepted by Swain and immediately thereafter the reputation established among some of his associates as "Chuck on the finger job" was borne out. Chiefly because of the fact that he was unscrupulous in his enforcement of the law.

Pursuit of one homicide led Swain into the territory of a chief known

Officers Matrimony.
A prominent cotton farmer, then considered wealthy, living near the

present site of Purcell, had given his daughter a watch of exceptional value. The watch needed regulation and a neighbor offered to take the watch with him to Purcell for repair. On the road this neighbor was held up by bandits, relieved of the watch and other valuables and instructed to return home. Upon being notified of the holdup, the girl offered marriage to the man who recovered her watch.

and a posse were chasing in the hills of lower Cleveland county and upon their persons found considerable money. How much this was, by snapping it open he discovered a picture and with his glance came a statement that he was going to marry the person the picture represented.

After sorting at Purcell, identification established that the bandit Swain had captured were the same as those who had robbed the traveler. Swain proceeded to the home of the girl to return the stolen property.

Collected the Reward.

"How much do I owe you?" asked the farmer.

"Whatever was the reward," replied Swain, and he turned to the girl.

Following his marriage his associations with the Chickasaw Indians was continued, involving his land rights. These later developed into a feud in which both Swain and the leader of the opposing faction were killed.

A photograph of Swain was sent by his wife to a sculptor in Italy, from which the statue was made. The artist was a member of the historical society, although a note attached at the time of its delivery said:

"I am sure the sculptor who made this statue had never seen an American '44"; were John to see this statue and note the size of the holoiter and the shape of the weapon, he could never claim alliance to one having owned such a 'toy' pistol."

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